Year	Central Assistance (Rs. in crore)
1995-96	25.00 (Grant)
1996-97	10.09 (Grant)
1997-98	18.00

3. Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns.

The Central share (grant) is 25% of the total project cost sanctioned, with equal share of grant from State side and the balance 50% from institutional sources. Allocation figuress are not available. However, Central release for the last three years is as under:—

Year	Actual Central Release (Rs. in lakhs)
1995-96	40.00
1996-97	60.00
1997-98	52.00

4. Schemes for water supply in Assam.

The funding pattern is 50:50 between the Centre and the State. Allocations and releases made during the last three year are as under:—

(Rs. lakhs)

			1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1.	Accelerated Rural Water Supply Prog.	Allocation	1845	2026	2438
		Release	2245	2354	2372
2.	Accelerated Urban Water Supply Prog. in town with population of less than 20,000	Allocation	140	128.05	N.A.
		Releasse	140	168.05	140

Improving Infrastructural Facilities

4118. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleassed to state:

(a) whether Government have determined any priorities to improve the infrastructure in the country;

(b) if so, what has been placed at the top of all; and

(c) whether there is any plan under consideration to privatise any of the infrastructure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) The Government recognises the crucial role played by infrastructure in economic develpment (e.g., power, energy, road, railways, ports & telecommunications.) A detailed action plan for Rapid improvement in ıysical Infrastruture is currently under ɔparation which upon finalisation will be ...egrated with the existing Draft IX Five Year Plan for consideration and approval of the National Development Council through due process.

(c) Private Sector participation is already permitted in various areas of the sub-sectors of infrastructure such as power, telecommunications, roads, railways and ports.

Annual Plan for Orissa

4119. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Annual Plan for 1998-99 for Orissa has been finalised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a)

The Annual Plan for 1998-99 for Orissa has not been finalised as yet.

(b) Does not arise.

Funds Sanctioned for Power Projects in North-East

4120. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) how much amount has been sanctioned by Government for the New Power Projects during the last three yearss for Tripura and North-Eastern region; year-wise;

(b) what was the actual amount spent on those projects; and

(c) what is the present status of projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) No New Power Project has been approved through Planning Commission during the last three years for Tripura and North-Eastern Region.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Duplication in Monitoring of Major Projects

4121. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that presently more than one Government Department like the Department of Programme Implementation, the Cabinet Secretariat etc., monitor major Government projects etc., leading to duplication of the same work; and

(b) if so, the measures being taken to streamline the system for more cost effective and efficient operations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) The Department of Programme Implementation as an appex body for monitoring of Government projects costing Rs. 20 crore and above provides objective monitoring and evaluation independent of planning and implementating agencies at one place and assists the Government in better management on projects. On the basis of the reports of the Department of Programme Implementation of projects costing Rs. 100 crores and above, the Cabinet Secretariat holds meetings from time to time to resolve intricate inter-ministerial issues/problems relating to the implementation of major projects.

Construction of Barak Dam

4122. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Barak Dam is proposed to be constructed in the State of Assam to check floods in the flood prone Barak Valley; and

(b) if so, what is the present position of the construction of the dam and by when it is to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Brahmaputra Board has completed investigation works and Detailed project Report for a multipurpose project on Barak river at manipur-Mizoram border in Barak Vally.

(b) Techno-economical clearance subject to certain conditions has been granted to the Tipaimukh Dam project (Barak Dam) in 1995. Further progress could not be made in absence of agreement between the concerned States of Manipur, Mizoram and Assam.

LIS in Drought Affected Areas of Gujarat

4123. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the farmers of drought affected areas of Gujarat are being motivated to take up Lift Irrigation Scheme (LIS) under participatory irrigation management;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether LIS is not picking up in the State due to non-release of power and in many